GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:160
ANSWERED ON:07.03.2001
ADOPTION OF ORPHANS DUE TO EARTHQUAKE
RAMDAS ATHAWALE

Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have issued directives to the Government of Gujarat regarding adoption of more children, who have become orphans in the recent earthquake;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government are aware that many institutions engaged in adoption of children are exploiting them;

(d) if so, the number of such cases that have come to the notice of the Union Government during the past three years till date;

(e) the action being taken by the Government against such institutions;

(f) whether fresh instructions are being issued to the State Governments in this regard; and
(g) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SMT. MANEKA GANDHI)

(a)&(b) No directive has been issued by the Ministry to the State Govt. of Gujarat regarding adoption of more children who have become orphaned in the recent Earth Quake. However, the Ministry has advised the State Govt. that steps should be taken to re-habilitate all affected children with their surviving relatives and adoption should be resorted to only as a last measure after necessary verification.

(c),(d)&(e) On the basis of reports received by the Ministry, the recognition of 3 placement agencies have been suspected/withdrawn. The names of the agencies are placed at Annexure-A.

(f)&(g) The Ministry has been issuing instructions to the State governments and concerned agencies from time to time to ensure that adoptions are carried out in a legal manner through licensed agencies. The State Governments have been requested to license all Orphanages and to monitor and supervise adoptions as per rules.

Annexure-`A`

Name of Agencies	Date of Suspension/ Withdrawal of License
1. Action for Social Development, Hyderabad	16th June, 2000
2. Good Samaritan Evangelical and Social Welfare Association, Hyderabad.	16th June, 2000
3. M/s Madras Social Service Guild, Chennai.	18th June, 1999